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# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **USSR**

REPORT

SUBJECT Information on Higher Educational Institutions in the USSR;

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Three reports concerning higher educational institutions in the USSR

Attachment 1 50X1-HUM

concerns the University of Kiev, describes the university buildings, and mentions some personalities on the staff. Attachment 2 is a fairly detailed report describing the Moscow Institute of Construction Engineers.<sup>1</sup> This report includes information on: admission requirements, student housing, students studying by correspondence, the fields of study covered at the institute, curriculum for the school of hydraulic engineering, plan of study, premilitary and political instruction, personnel, and student stipends. Attachment 3 describes the Ryazan Technical Agricultural Institute and gives information on the curriculum, military classes, opinion as to the academic level of the institute, faculty at the institute, and work done on plant diseases and animal breeding.

1.   Comment: This is probably the Moscow Order of Labor Red Banner Construction Engineering Institute imeni V. V. Kuybyshev.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

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The institute was named THE MOSCOW INSTITUTE OF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS (MOSKOVSKIY INZHENERNO STROITELNIY INSTITUT) (1). It was located in Moscow, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ district, No. 2 of Spartak (2) Street, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Baumanskiy (3) and was subordinate to the Ministry of Higher Education. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Foreign students from the satellite countries and Asia made up more than ~~XX~~ five percent of the student body; the majority of these foreign students were Chinese. The Russian language was used in all courses since the (foreign) students usually knew some Russian upon matriculating and <sup>{studied}</sup> would study Russian to fulfill the requirement of one foreign language.

Admission Requirements:

Students were required to have finished ten-year-school and to write <sup>a competitive</sup> entrance exam; there was an average of about twenty applicants for each opening. All

<sup>the</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ passing the entrance exam were allowed to matriculate without having to worry about the competitive aspect of the exam. ~~XXXX~~ Other foreign students wrote entrance exams before leaving their respective countries.

<sup>{prerequisites}</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ no political requirements for matriculation, although nearly all the students belonged to Komsomol, chiefly in order to avoid attracting attention.

Both sexes were admitted indifferently, although <sup>there was an</sup> ~~the~~ age limit ~~was~~ 35 or 40 (years).

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Documents required for admission: A hand-written petition with four photographs, addressed to the Director of the Institute; a certificate stating that the {petitioner interested party} had finished ten-year-school; a complete autobiography; [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted]

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--- Student housing ---

Students were not required to live on campus; there was, however, a kind of residence for foreigners and for those students, ~~who were~~ not (economically) able to pay for board and room, who got the best grades in the competitive entrance exam; residence privileges were tied to grades because the residence was not large enough to accommodate all needy students, although it had a total capacity of about 800.

This residence, located on Studencheskaya (5) Street, Kievskiy (4) <sup>Rayon</sup> district, was a six-story building in which the students lived four to a room; it was part of a kind of students' colony formed by various residences belonging to diverse educational institutions.

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There were students living in Moscow who worked and were not able to attend classes; these students studied by correspondence, receiving notes on the lessons and lectures given. ~~These~~ These students usually worked in the special field (in which) they were studying at the Institute, and (their) studies were correspondingly easy for them since they received practical experience daily. These students attended the Institute during the month preceding exams in order to review the work with their professors. [redacted] students studying by correspondence could keep up and finish with those who attended classes; [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted]

[redacted] there was no minimum attendance requirement, but [redacted] each student tried to attend class during the month review period at least. A certificate from the Institute was sufficient for <sup>students</sup> ~~them~~ to get <sup>allowed</sup> ~~permission~~ to leave off work during this period.

Students were permitted to repeat only one school year; this year could ~~be~~ repeated only once.

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This Institute was divided into the following schools:

~~Hydraulic~~ <sup>Hydraulic</sup> Engineering, Construction, Transportation, Construction Planning, Ventilation and Mains, Heating and Ventilation, Construction Technology, and Mechanics in Construction. <sup>(see sketch)</sup> There was a five-year course <sup>of studies</sup> in each of the specialties mentioned.

Each school year was divided into two semesters. The first and second school years began on September 1, and ended at the beginning of July; no field trips were made <sup>school</sup> in these first two years. The third, fourth, and fifth years began on October 1, and ended the middle of June, when students went on field trips to get on-the-job experience; this period of practical experience lasted until September 1.

The first semester ended at the beginning of February with final exams; a twelve-day vacation period followed, then the beginning of the second semester. ~~FINAL EXAMS~~ In some subjects, final exams were not given at the end of the first ~~semester or at the end of the school year, but rather, whenever the student study~~ even semester or at the end of the school year, but rather, whenever the ~~student study~~ <sup>(mid-semester)</sup> of the subject ended, even though it might be in the middle of a semester.

subjects 50X1-HUM  
by years, the ~~subjects~~ in Hydraulic

Engineering were approximately as follows:

- 1st year. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Mechanical Drawing, Sketching, Topography, Descriptive Geometry, Principles of Hydraulic Engineering, Russian Language, and Marxism-Leninism.
- 2nd year. Mathematics, Marxism-Leninism, Russian Language, Construction Materials, Mechanics of Construction, Strength of Materials, Geology, Hydrology, and Electrical Engineering.
- 3rd year. Mathematics, Political Economy of the Capitalistic Countries, Russian Language, Metallic Structures, Reinforced Concrete, Wooden Structures, Statics, Hydraulics, Hydraulic Engineering, River and Ocean Ports with canals and locks, ~~Exploitation of Water Power~~, Hydrology, Architecture, and Electrical Engineering.
- 4th year. Mathematics, Political Economy of the Socialistic Countries, Hydraulic Engineering, Hydraulics, Hydraulic Machinery, Hydromechanics, Hydroelectric Power Production, Reinforced Concrete, Metallic Structures, Wooden Structures, Work Organization, and the Theory of Filtration.

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[redacted]

5th year. Hydraulic Engineering, Hydromechanics, Hydroelectric Power Production, Work Organization, Accident and Fire-Prevention Techniques. These subjects were studied during only the first semester of the 5th year; during the second semester, each student prepared a theoretical-practical study as a final, comprehensive exam and to be used in the "defense of the diploma". This study consisted of the planning of a dam on a specified river within a certain area; the dam was to be planned for hydroelectric power production, irrigation, and navigation; the ~~plan~~ study was to be complete and take into consideration economy in the choice of materials, work organization, etc., and to include maps, drawings, and calculations. The completed study was handed in to a professor who did not know the student, usually to a professor from another institute; this ~~prof~~ professor prepared a criticism of the work, which the student had to refute before the examining board.

In each of the five years, the subjects dealing with Strength of Materials, and Construction, Hydraulics, Electrical Engineering were lab courses, and the students did as much practical lab work as was necessary to complement the theoretical classes.

For similar material, cf. P. 3 [redacted]

50X1-HUM

At the end of the third, ~~and~~ fourth years, students got on-the-job experience ~~at hydroelectric works of their own choice that were under construction; they worked as substitute engineers, directing a part of the construction work under the supervision and orders of the engineer; in the third and fourth years, this experience period of practical experience lasted from mid-June until September 1. In the fifth year, the period of practical experience was of 25 days in the month of February (the first semester ended at the beginning of February); the students had the same duties the 5th year as they had the 3rd and 4th. At the end of the period of practical experience corresponding to the 5th year, the students began work on the theoretical-practical study mentioned above to be used in the "defense of the diploma"~~ *for hydroelectric works* in their own specialty at hydroelectric works of their own choice that were under construction; they worked as substitute engineers, directing a part of the construction work under the supervision and orders of the engineer; in the third and fourth years, this ~~experience~~ period of practical experience lasted from mid-June until September 1. In the fifth year, the period of practical experience was of 25 days in the month of February ~~(the first semester ended at the beginning of February); the students had the same duties the 5th year as they had the 3rd and 4th. At the end of the period of practical experience corresponding to the 5th year, the students began work on the theoretical-practical study mentioned above to be used in the "defense of the diploma"~~

[redacted] the proportion of lab and on-the-job training to theoretical studies, but the time dedicated to theoretical studies was far the greater.

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Each year, there were semester exams in all subjects; second semester exams were not comprehensive. All ~~exam~~ exams were given orally, and the student used a blackboard for ~~for~~ calculations and drawings.

The theoretical-practical study used as a comprehensive exam at the end of the five-year course of studies was presented before an examining board and the student had to answer questions and refute any criticism. The study and its presentation before the examining board was known as the "defense of the diploma".

Grades assigned were:

- 1- Very bad
- 2- Bad
- 3- Passing (Fair)
- 4- Good
- 5- Outstanding

To pass a semester and begin the following, as to pass a year and begin the next, it was necessary to have passed all the subjects; if a student did not pass a final subject, ~~re-test~~ after a period of a few days. exam in a ~~subject~~ he was given a ~~second exam~~ a few days after the first.

acquired  
The title ~~given~~ was that of Engineer in each of the specialties mentioned. This title was granted by the Director of the Institute after approval by the President of the examining board, who was, at the same time, a member of the Ministry of Higher Education.

hydraulic  
Upon graduation, hydraulic engineers were employed at ~~hydroelectric~~ works, under the supervision of the chief engineer; during the first three years after graduation, these engineers were called "young specialists" and were not given full responsibility after this three-year period, and sometimes during it, the engineer reached full professional competence.

*within the first year*  
Credits were accepted for transfer from one School to the other, provided subject requirements were met. Because of the vast hydroelectric and irrigation program in the USSR, many students from other Schools were forced to matriculate in the School of Hydraulic Engineering ~~at the Institute~~ in 1951.

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## PREMILITARY INSTRUCTION:

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In this Institute, military matters were studied eight hours every Saturday; all foreigners were excluded from these studies, but  the 50X1-HUM  
<sup>armament,</sup>  
 students studied fortifications, ~~and~~ military installations, the use of explosives <sup>in</sup>  
~~for~~ demolition, military instruction, etc.

Upon finishing the five-year course, students were examined by a Military ~~Committee~~  
 Commission and commissioned as second lieutenants, reserve.

## POLITICAL INSTRUCTION:

Political instruction was obligatory; the required courses were: Political Economy of the Capitalistic Countries, Political Economy of the Socialistic Countries, and Marxism-Leninism. The same amount of time was dedicated to political instruction as to any other subject; students received political instruction only during the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.

There was a special chair of Political Economy in charge of the required courses for all the Schools of the ~~22~~ Institute.

Students were required to attend Komsomol meetings <sup>about</sup> once a month and sign the attendance sheet; at these meetings, warnings were given to students who were behind in their studies or whose personal life was not normal, and talks were given on Soviet advances <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ on the international situation. These talks were given by students who had been assigned a certain subject, or by activists arriving from other areas.

Each study group consisted of <sup>25</sup> ~~twenty-five~~ students, one of whom was responsible to the Komsomol; this student was chosen by the members of the group or sometimes appointed by the Party, and was in charge of collecting dues, calling meetings, and warning those students who did not obey the rules. If the student responsible to the Komsomol was not the one the students had tried to elect, they had to accept him <sup>anyway</sup> ~~although~~ they didn't want to.

Those students finishing the school year with ~~under~~ a grade of "outstanding" in every subject received money prizes in the form of a raise in their stipend for the following year. These money prizes, the largest of which was called 50X1-HUM

Attachment d

50X1-HUM

the "Stalin stipend", amounted to about 780 rubles monthly. In order to get the "Stalin stipend", students had to be activists and be closely linked to the directors, apart from getting the required grades.

Those students finishing all five years with ~~grades~~ a grade of "outstanding" received preferential treatment and could choose from among the best jobs.

PERSONNEL:

Nikiforov (6); Assistant Director of Curriculum ; Doctor of Technical Sciences; Head of Department of Strength of Materials.  50X1-HUM

Zhurin(7); Dean of the School of Hydraulic Engineering; Doctor of Technical Sciences; Head of Department of Hydraulics.

Zhunkovskiy (8); Doctor of Technical Sciences; Professor in the Department of Ports and Canals.

~~194~~ Gubin (9); Doctor of Technical Sciences; Professor in the Department of the Exploitation of Water Power;

50X1-HUM



## STUDENT BODY:

The total number of students at the Institute was about <sup>4,000.</sup> ~~four thousand.~~

The number of students per School varied; the School ~~xx~~ of Hydraulic Engineering was the largest, with about <sup>600</sup> ~~six hundred~~ students. The School of Construction Technology and the School of Ventilation and Mains were the smallest, with about 125 students each.

About 99% of the students were men; there were ~~xx~~ students from all over the USSR, most of them Russian. In other cities, there were other Institutes of this kind.

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Student stipends were different for Russian students and foreigners. The Russians got: 290 rubles monthly the first year, 325 the second, 355 the third, and 395 the fourth and fifth years.  In general, 50X1-HUM  
foreigners got 500 rubles a month from the Soviet government and 300 rubles <sup>a month</sup> from their respective consulates.

Each student had to pay for his meals from his stipend, although he could eat wherever he chose ~~to~~.

Books and materials were free; nevertheless, library books and materials ~~xxxxxx~~  
~~xxxxxx~~ that were not returned had to be paid for.

Each student supplied his own clothes and paid for the washing and ironing of same.

Komsomol dues varied; students with a stipend of 500 rubles paid two percent; students with a stipend of less than 500 rubles paid less than two percent.

Students also had to pay, although voluntarily (sic), about 3 or 3.5 rubles a month to the Labor Unions.

~~xxxxxx~~  
~~Students living in a students' residence paid 15 rubles a month~~

Living in a students' residence, each student paid 15 rubles a month.

Students paid nothing for recreational or sports activities; some students were members of a club and had to pay <sup>dues of</sup> a few centimes of a ruble a month.

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Classes began at 8:00 in the morning and ended at 5:00 or at 7:00 P.M.; the schedule was not a fixed schedule. Each class was <sup>50</sup>~~fifty~~ minutes long and was followed by a ~~ten-minute~~ ten-minute rest period. Lunch was served in the Institute dining room from 12 noon to 1:00 P.M.

Komsomol meetings were held once a month, always after classes were over. There were also less frequent meetings of the Labor Unions, usually from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. or from 8:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Vacations were given each year after the period dedicated to on-the-job training; vacations lasted from one month to a month and a half.

The first three years, classes began on September 1; the fourth and fifth years, ~~classes~~ classes began on October 1.

Leaves of absence were granted if the student could show that some member of the ~~class~~ was ill or had died.

Since facilities at rest homes, spas, etc. were inadequate during vacation time, preference for their use was given to foreign students and to students who were ill. An order was established for the remaining students, ~~who~~ each of whom had to wait his turn.

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Ryazan Technical Agricultural Institute

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General

1. The Ryazan Technical Agricultural Institute was located on ulitsa Perlova, 26 in the city of Ryazan (N 54-40, E 39-40) in an old stone building dating from the times of the tsars and considered to be a historical monument. The building occupied an area of some 30 x 50 meters and had two floors and two basements; one contained the shops and the other was used for seed storage and the central heating system.

Curriculum

2. Classes in scientific agriculture were given in two shifts to provide adequate facilities for all the students. The day shift ran from 0800 to 1400. Homework was given in the school of agricultural science as it was in the school of machine technicians in the institute and consisted of problems; the drawing of seeds, plants, trees and irrigation systems; and additional study.

The curriculum of an agricultural

scientist was as follows:

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First Year

Marxism-Leninism  
Physics  
Inorganic Chemistry  
Botony  
Zoology  
History of Agriculture  
Automobiles and Tractors  
Plant Physiology  
Physical Education

Second Year

Organic Chemistry  
Darwinism  
Biology  
Geodesy  
Geology  
Political Economy  
Animal Physiology  
Animal Reproduction

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50X1-HUM

-3-

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Third Year

Edaphology  
Horticulture  
Fruit Growing  
Agricultural Machinery  
Colloid Chemistry  
Analytic Chemistry  
Physical Chemistry  
Agricultural Chemistry  
Phytopathology  
Entomology

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Fourth Year

Crop Cultivation  
Forestry  
Animal Husbandry  
Fertilization  
Agricultural Economy  
The scientific, socialistic organization of agriculture  
Crop Selection  
Practicum. The practicum was given in the surrounding  
beet fields and in a sovkhos which had a sugar refinery.  
Final Examination. The diploma of agricultural scientist was  
obtained after an examination which covered Marxism-Leninism,  
crop cultivation, animal husbandry, and the organization  
of agriculture. Students also had to defend their final  
thesis.

Military Classes

3. All Soviet citizens were required to attend military classes. The staff consisted of two generals and a colonel. One of the generals had been military commander of Moscow but had been relieved of his post at the time of Stalin's death due to an incident involving Beria. [redacted] it was rumored that he had been relieved of his post by Beria because of the many casualties that had occurred, due to lack of maintenance of order, in the crowds that came to see Stalin in his lifelike state in the mausoleum. [redacted]

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Evaluation of Institute Education

4. Training was average, ~~and~~ facilities were adequate, sufficient theory was taught and the professors were well-qualified. A good deal of specialization was stressed but neither an encyclopedic knowledge nor a deep penetration into theoretical questions was required of the students who were only expected to be exact in methods and

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50X1-HUM

-4-

techniques and ready to learn.

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Institute Faculty

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5. [redacted] names of the following faculty members: 50X1-HUM

Dubovoy. Director of the institute, held a degree in zoology [redacted]

Naumov. He had a degree in agriculture, was deputy director [redacted]

Pyetrov. Doctor of animal husbandry who gave classes in animal physiology. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

Labutin. Doctor of zootomy and professor of animal reproduction. 50X1-HUM

[redacted] 50X1-HUM  
Konovalov. He was [redacted] man with a doctorate in agricultural machinery engineering.

Racetoskaya. She was [redacted] a doctor of chemistry.

Phytopathology

6. The plant diseases most common to the region were those affecting rye and wheat. Claviceps purpurea, was a disease affecting rye, ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> caused by a fungus which attacked the grains, turning them dark brown, and causing them to swell, and rendering them toxic. Ustilaginia tritici, popularly known as wheat smut, was a disease caused by a fungus which formed blackish spores inside the grains, causing them to smell like putrid fish, and rendering the wheat unusable for bread flour. Tilletia tritici, popularly called naked wheat smut, was another disease which destroyed the wheat grain and was very contagious. Potatoes were commonly ruined by prolonged storage.

Treatment of Plant Diseases

7. All agricultural technicians were instructed to keep watch over the

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-5-

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development of plant diseases and to inform agricultural disease control agencies so that ~~their~~ the spread of these diseases might be checked by chemical means or by the cultivation of new varieties. Chemicals could be acquired for fumigation or for spraying, which in the case of large areas was done from the air. The usual chemicals used were DDT or hexachlorides (sic) for the seeds. Seeds were treated in seed selecting centers by impregnating them with from 2 to 3 grams of hexachloride (sic) in 50 kilogram cylindrical drums which were rotated by means of levers to distribute the chemical. This operation was done by women working only 10 to 15 minutes at a time because of the toxicity of the odors. These same centers selected the most resistant strains and experimented with hybrids. Agricultural technicians were encouraged to do experimental cultivation.

#### Animal Breeding

8. The principal difficulty encountered with animals was that the winter cold produced abortions for which improved sanitary conditions and nutrition were prescribed. Cowpox vaccines and vitamins together with selective breeding <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ employed to produce disease-resistant animals. In the majority of the kolkhozy and sovkhkozy, breeding was done with stock preselected on this basis. The zoologists of the scientific institute of Ryazan had produced, after much experimentation, a new "Kalininskaya" breed of sow, white with black markings, fat, prolific, able to feed on all classes of food, and producing a great quantity of grease or meat depending upon the diet. This breed was suitable for many regions because of its adaptability to different climates. Centers of investigation such as this, were subordinate to the Ministry of Higher Education.

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50X1-HUM

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Attachment 3

50X1-HUM

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Curriculum

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50X1-HUM



Attachment 3

-3-

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50X1-HUM

Third Year

Edaphology  
Horticulture  
Fruit Growing  
Agricultural Machinery  
Colloid Chemistry  
Analytic Chemistry  
Physical Chemistry  
Agricultural Chemistry  
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50X1-HUM

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Crop Cultivation  
Forestry  
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50X1-HUM

-4-

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-5-

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50X1-HUM

Attachment 1

**CONFIDENTIAL**University of Kiev

REPRO 3

General

1. The University of Kiev was located in the city of Kiev (N 50-27, E 30-32) on ulitsa Korolenka, between bulvar Shevchenko and ulitsa Tolstogo. [redacted]

[redacted] estimate the number of students at several thousand with many, perhaps even the majority, women. The university was not so complete as that of Moscow, but among the faculties represented there were mathematics, physics, chemistry, geography, philology, history, economics, philosophy, geology, and biology.

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Description of University

2. The university was housed in a pre-revolutionary, three-story, stuccoed, brick building with a six-columned portico along the front. The building measured approximately 200 x 150 meters and was flanked by two libraries. A sketch of the university building appears on page \_\_\_\_\_. Botanical gardens located behind the university building were at a lower level than the street. At the rear of the building was a basement on a level with the gardens.

The university contained the following:

- A. Basement: At the foot of the stairway descending from the main entrance to the basement, was a cloakroom and a buffet or bar. To each side were academic supply rooms and to the left, rear, was the military faculty and some physical education classrooms.
- B. First floor. On entering from the street level, there was an entrance hall leading to a central corridor which ran around the building with classrooms on each side, and with marble stairways ~~xxxxxx~~ leading to the other floors. There were additional stairways in each corner of the building. On this floor were the offices of the deans of philosophy, economics and history. The classrooms of philosophy, economics and were in the right wing and the history classrooms were in the center.
- C. Second floor. Directly above the entrance hall was a conference room with the university club to the right and the zoological museum to the left. The rest of the floor was occupied by natural science classrooms.
- D. Third floor. The third floor was occupied by the deans' offices and classrooms of the other faculties.

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Libraries

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3. On each side of the main university building were other three-story buildings of the same construction. To the right was the scientific library of the university which was thought to contain some of the university administrative offices as well. To the left was the public library of the Academy of Sciences. These libraries were well-supplied with every type of scientific and literary book, old editions as well as the most modern.

Botanical gardens

4. The botanical gardens occupied a large area of carefully cultivated ground where trees and plants of many varieties were grown. Facing bulvar Shevchenko, there was a small building which housed the faculty and the laboratory. There was also a hothouse, equipped with the latest facilities, for certain classes of plants.

Staff

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5. The rector of the university, [ ] was named Golik. He was a chemist and a member of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. There were three prorectors: Ivanov, the prorector of studies, Lukonski, who was [ ] the pro-rector of administration and finance, and a pro-rector of candidacy whose name was not remembered.

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А.Г. Ивченко

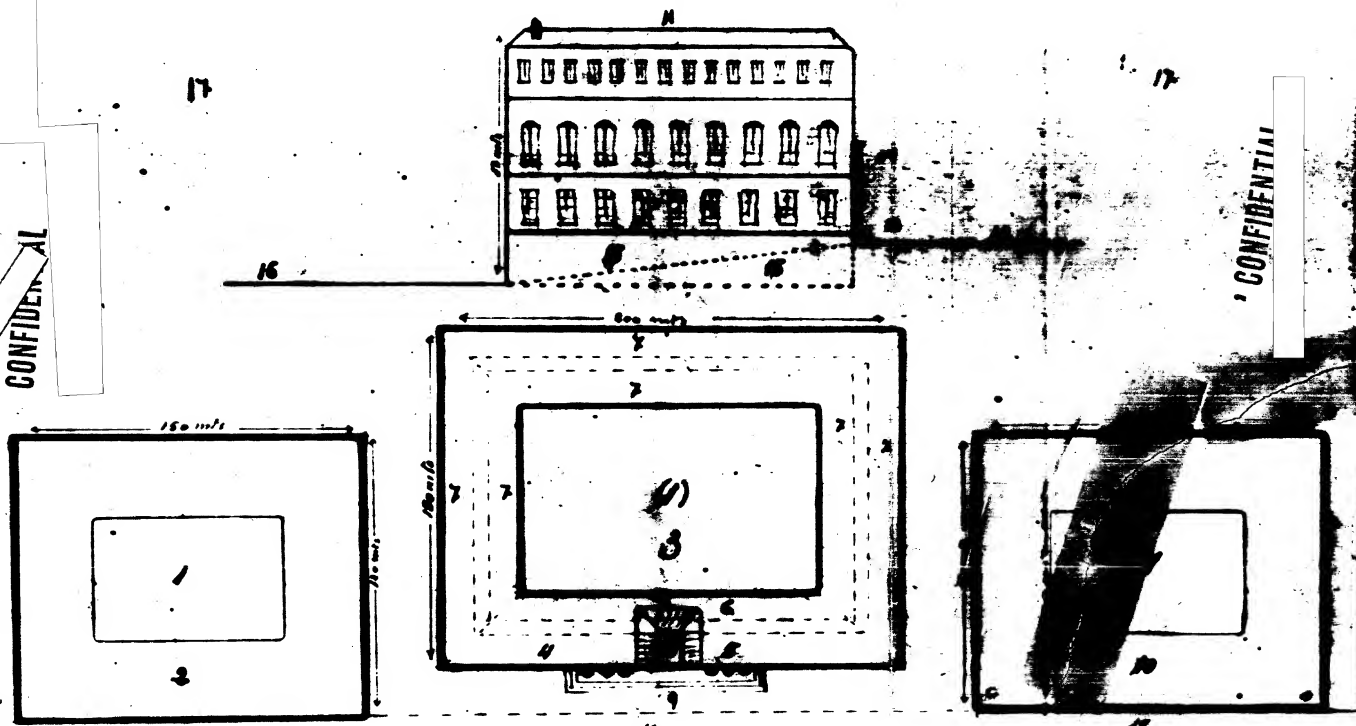
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1. Courtyards of the University and libraries.
2. Public library of the Academy of Sciences.
3. University. This was a three-story structure with basement.
4. Conference room.
5. Zoological museum.
6. University club.
7. Classrooms.
8. Main stairway.
9. Entrance.
10. University library of science. This was a three-story structure.
11. South side of the university showing street and garden levels.
12. Level of ulitsa Korolenka.
13. Front steps.
14. Stone columns of portico.
15. Basement, showing displacement of levels.
16. Level of the botanical gardens.
17. Site of the botanical gardens in relation to the plans of the libraries and to the floor plan of the university.
18. Ulitsa Korolenka.
19. Ulitsa Tolstogo.
20. Bulvar Shevchenko.

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Three reports concerning higher educational institutions in the USSR

Attachment 1 concerns the University of Kiev, describes the university buildings, and mentions some personalities on the staff. Attachment 2 is a fairly detailed report describing the Moscow Institute of Construction Engineers.<sup>1</sup> This report includes information on: admission requirements, student housing, students studying by correspondence, the fields of study covered at the institute, curriculum for the school of hydraulic engineering, plan of study, premilitary and political instruction, personnel, and student stipends. Attachment 3 describes the Ryazan Technical Agricultural Institute and gives information on the curriculum, military classes, opinion as to the academic level of the institute, faculty at the institute, and work done on plant diseases and animal breeding.

1. Comment: This is probably the Moscow Order of Labor Red Banner Construction Engineering Institute imeni V. V. Kuybyshev. 50X1-HUM

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